

REMARKS

The Official Action of July 8, 2004, and the prior art cited and relied upon therein have been carefully studied. The claims in the application are now claims 1 and 4-7, and these claims define patentable subject matter warranting their allowance. Favorable reconsideration and such allowance are respectfully urged.

Claims 2 and 3 have been canceled and claims 4-7 added. Claims 1 and 4-7 remain in the application for consideration.

In response to the Examiner's objection to claim 1, Applicant has amended claim 1 to eliminate the antecedent problem identified by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully submits that this objection has now been overcome.

The Examiner has further rejected claim 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Hitomi '130. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection especially as applied to claim 1 as amended and new claims 4-7.

Neither gear 7,8 or 10 or slider 12 (equivalent to Applicant's guide device 35) of Hitomi have a portion thereof received in an opening of its reel body 2. Clearly screw shaft 11 which is inserted into opening 2C of reel body 2 of Hitomi is neither a gear or a guide device and provides no

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teaching of providing additional openings in reel body 2 for receiving a portion of either gears 7,8 or 10 or slider 12 in order to make reel body 2 smaller without affecting movement of the gears or the slider as in the claimed invention.

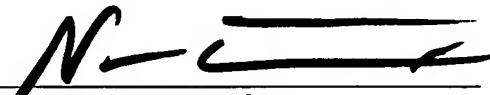
Indeed, opening 2C of Hitomi is provided only to receive ball bearing 17 which serves as a support for screw shaft 11 and makes no contribution to making reel body smaller as do the openings for the gear and guiding device claimed by Applicant.

The prior art documents made of record¹ and not relied upon have been noted along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently pertinent to warrant their applications against any of applicant's claims.

Favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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